

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 156400
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:IO/UNA:BJSHARP

APPROVED BY:IO/UNA:JFTEFFT

S/S-O:KDSCOTT

-----004768 201904Z /64

O 201830Z JUN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 7706

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 156400

EXDIS FOR AMB YOUNG FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT KINSHASA 6370 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BONN BRUSSELS
LONDON PARIS JUNE 19

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 6370

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, EAID, PEPR, CG

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO MOBUTU ON REFORMS

REF KINSHASA 6350

1. UPON LEARNING THAT MOBUTU HAD AGREED TO RECEIVE FRENCH
AMBASSADOR ROSS AT 0900 TODAY, JUNE 19 (REFTEL), I TELEPHONED
MOBUTU EVENING JUNE 17 AND ASKED TO SEE HIM ON MONDAY ALSO.
I SAID I HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO DISCUSS WITH HIM PERSONALLY
CERTAIN MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE PARIS AND BRUSSELS
MEETINGS, AND TO DELIVER THE TEXT OF A PERSONAL LETTER FROM
PRESIDENT CARTER IN RESPONSE TO MOBUTU'S LETTER OF JUNE 4.

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MOBUTU DID NOT IMMEDIATELY AGREE TO RECEIVE ME, ASKING INSTEAD
THAT I CALL HIM BACK TODAY.

2. MOBUTU, WHO SOUNDED TIRED AND NOT IN THE BEST OF MOODS,
WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE WAS DISTURBED TO LEARN THAT AT THE
BRUSSELS CONFERENCE SEVERAL COUNTRIES, NOTABLY THE UNITED STATES,
HAD ADOPTED A VERY RESERVED POSITION WITH RESPECT TO HELPING

ZAIRE. I RESPONDED THAT WE, FOR OUR PART, HAD FOUND THE MEETING USEFUL AND I WAS PLEASED TO NOTE THAT A SCENARIO HAD BEEN PROJECTED FOR FUTURE MEETINGS TO CONSULT FURTHER ON ZAIRE'S PROBLEMS; OUR POSITION ON THESE MATTERS WAS WHAT I WISHED TO DISCUSS PERSONALLY WITH THE PRESIDENT.

3. ROSS HAS JUST INFORMED ME THAT HIS APPOINTMENT WITH THE PRESIDENT HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL LATER THIS MORNING, JUNE 19, BECAUSE MOBUTU IS TO OPEN AN MPR PARTY SEMINAR BEING HELD FOR MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. (ROSS LEAVES KINSHASA THIS AFTERNOON FOR WEEK-LONG CONFERENCE IN DAKAR.)

4. AS REQUESTED BY MOBUTU, I WILL CALL AGAIN TODAY TO TRY TO ARRANGE MEETING. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT MOBUTU -- WHO OBVIOUSLY IS WELL AWARE OF WHAT THE PARIS FIVE ARE UP TO -- MAY STILL TRY TO PRE-EMPT THE THRUST OF OUR DEMARCHE, PERHAPS BY A SPEECH AT THE MPR SEMINAR. MY INTENTION, HOWEVER, IS TO PRESS AHEAD FOR EARLIEST POSSIBLE MEETING FOLLOWING ROSS' INITIAL APPROACH.

CUTLER. UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEMARCHE, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE156400
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/UNA:BJSHARP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780257-0441
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780639/aaaabhpl.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7f924685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 KINSHASA 6350
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2276930
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEMARCHE TO MOBUTU ON REFORMS
TAGS: PDEV, EAID, PEPR, CG
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7f924685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014